THE [Numb. 569.]

MARYLAND GAZETTE,

Containing the freſheſt Advices foreign and domeſtic.

THURSDAY, *April* 1, 1756.

We hope the following Narrative of the Sufferings and ſurprizing Deliverance of WILLIAM *and* ELIZABETH FLEMING, *who were taken Captives by Captain* Jacob, *Commander of the* Indians, *who lately made an Excurſion on the Inhabitants of the* Great-Cove *near* Conococheague, *in* Pennſylvania, *as related by themſelves, will be agreeable to our Readers.*

FLEMING, (who was taken about the firſt of *November* laſt) after giving a ſmall Account of the Eſcape of one BURNS, who was taken by the *Indians*, goes on:

I WAS in the Neighbourhood where * *Burns* gave the above Relation, ſeven Miles from my own Home, and tho' many who heard him, treated it as only the groundleſs Surmiſes of the Timorous, having too favourable an Opinion of the friendly Attachment of theſe *Indians* to this Province; yet I was determined however not to be too Fool-hardy, but haſten home, and remove my Wife and Effects to a neighbouring Fort. But, alas! by the Time I had got within two Miles of my Houſe, two *Indians* ſtarted from behind the Root of a Tree, cloſe by the Way Side, and had hold of my Horſe by the Bridle by the Time I well ſaw them. They commanded me to alight, very complaiſantly ſhook Hands, and told me (for they could ſpeak good *Engliſh*) I muſt go with them: But Oh! what Tongue can utter the Horror and Confuſion which in an Inſtant overwhelmed me, on finding myſelf in the very Hands of thoſe I was flying to avoid: I ſtood trembling and ſpeechleſs for ſome Time, which my Enemies, ſavage as they were, took Notice of, and endeavoured to encourage me, by clapping me ſeveral Times on the Shoulder, and bidding me not be afraid, for as I looked young and luſty, they would not hurt me, provided I was willing to go with them, and promiſe to ſtand by them, in Caſe they ſhould be attack'd by the *Engliſh* in our future Proceedings: One of them who was pretty well dreſſed, told me his Name was Capt. *Jacob*, and that he was Capt. over the *Indians* in that Expedition, being fifty in all: He ſaid he knew I could be of Service in leading him to thoſe Houſes that were moſt Defenceleſs, and added, that if I proved faithful, he would uſe me well, and ſaid, that tho' he was Captain over the aforeſaid *Indians*, yet he had only one with him, and they were afraid to venture on Houſes that had many Inhabitants, and that he would ſpare my Life on Condition I would help.

Upon theſe fair Promiſes I began to recover my Senſes, and finding I muſt either act the Part he had aſſign'd me, or ſubmit to the moſt cruel Torture, I concluded it moſt expedient to do the former, remembering the ſaying in *Job*, *All that a Man hath will he give for his Life*: But when I reflected on the Part I had undertaken to act, when I conſidered the dreadful Conſequences of my Information, I was grieved beyond Meaſure, and led the Way more like a condemn'd Criminal to meet his Fate, than one that had a Promiſe of Life and Happineſs: Beſides the Thoughts of leaving my poor dear Wife for ever, without being able to inform her of my Fate, or her own Danger, almoſt diſtracted me. My Maſter perceiving me dejected, and ſomewhat backward in my Intelligence, concluded I ſhould be more Trouble than Advantage to him, and began not only to alter his Conduct, but gave me to underſtand that I was no longer at my own Diſpoſal: This obliged me, tho' with Reluctance, to confeſs I had a Wife not many Miles off, and that all my Concern was for her; upon which he told me he was glad to hear that, for they wanted a Woman to make Bread for them, and therefore inſiſted on my leading them to my Houſe: Tho' indeed from ſome Part of their former Treatment, I had no Reaſon to expect any Arguments to induce me to a Compliance, in whatever they thought proper to demand, yet whatever might be the real Motive, they uſed ſeveral on this Occaſion; one of which was, that it would be better to have her along with myſelf, than ſuffer her to ſtay where ſhe was, as there was great Danger of ſome other *Indians* coming that Way, which if they did, ſhe need expect no Mercy at their Hands; for he, Captain *Jacob*, had ordered his *Indians* to ſpare none but young Men and young Women. This Information quite revived me, and I was even glad of the Privilege of leading them that Way: I knew we had to paſs by one *Hicks*'s, who had a numerous Family of able young Men, and was in great Hopes of being reſcued by them: But when we came within Sight of the Houſe, they did not advance towards it as I expected, but paſſed by at a Diſtance, and then ſtopped to conſider what was moſt proper to be done. Whilſt we tarried here, it unfortunately happened that two of *Hicks*'s Sons came out from Dinner, in order to work at an adjacent new Settlement: The *Indians* on ſeeing them ran behind Trees, and ordered me to do the ſame between them: I complied, but was in hopes theſe Two would be followed out by ſome more of the Family, which might afford me an Opportunity of Eſcape; but my Hopes were ſoon fruſtrated, for they having no Suſpicion of Danger, advanced careleſsly on till the foremoſt came oppoſite to the *Indian* that ſtood neareſt to me, who immediately ſprung out and ſeiz'd and pinion'd the unhappy Victim. He ſcreamed in a moſt piteous Manner for Help, but alas! there was none to be found. His Brother fled back to the Houſe with the utmoſt Precipitation, whence not one would venture out. For my Part I was not in a Condition to afford the leaſt Relief, not being allowed to carry even a Stick about me. They then hurried us away towards my Houſe with the utmoſt Speed, fearing their new Captive might be releaſed by his Relations.

The unhappy Youth not being accuſtomed to ſuch Treatment as he now met with; and not being apprized of the bad Conſequences that might attend the leaſt Reſiſtance, diſcovered great Uneaſineſs, and could not be prevailed upon to keep ſilent: Had not the *Indians* been acquainted with the *Engliſh* Tongue, I ſhould have thought it my Duty to admoniſh him to a Compliance with their capricious Humours, till Providence might favour us with an Opportunity of Eſcape: But as I could advance nothing to mitigate his Grief but what might tend to betray my Intentions, and convince my Enemies that I was not ſo taken with my preſent Way of Life, nor ſo much attached to their Intereſt as they imagined, I was obliged to be entirely ſilent, and leave him to their Management.

Though they ſpoke all their Secrets in their own Language, I could plainly perceive Reſentment kindle in their very Looks, which made me ſhudder and tremble for his Fate:----But why do I ſay his, ſeeing my Life was as much at the Diſpoſal of theſe mercileſs Wretches as his, and I had no Reaſon to expect but that when they began, we ſhould equally fall a Sacrifice to their cruel Reſentment:----All the Advantages I had to boaſt of ſuperior to him were, that I had been longer in their Service, and had the Policy to counterfeit a chearful Behaviour, whilſt he continued obſtinate to the laſt Degree; but whether they would condeſcend to take theſe Things into Conſideration, I was at a Loſs to determine.

We had now got within a Mile of my Houſe, when my poor Wife ſhould have employed all my Thoughts, had they not been diverted by my own melancholy Situation: For being now in the Midſt of a conſiderable Thicket, our Maſters came to another Conſultation concerning their future Proceedings. Which being done, one of them being placed near a Tree, ordered me to advance towards him, which I did with my uſual Submiſſion, not in the leaſt ſuſpecting his Deſign: But if I had, the leaſt ſeeming Reluctance might have proved my Ruin. He then placed himſelf on the oppoſite Side of the Tree, ordered me to ſit down with my Back to the Tree, and after pulling my Arms backwards round it, tied them with a Deer's Sinew, then put on Leather Muffs on my Hands to keep me from uſing my Fingers, and then tied them likewiſe together. I had the Mortification to find my Timidity only excited Ridicule and Laughter in my cruel Perſecutors, who made Sport of my Miſeries and mock'd at my Fears.

Being ſo intent upon my own Preſervation, it may eaſily be imagined I could not be very attentive to the Fate of my unhappy Companion: I ſaw him however ſeized by the *Indian* who was with Capt. *Jacob*, whoſe Name was *Jim*, who with remorſeleſs Cruelty gave him a Blow with the Back of his Tomahawk which ſtunn'd him; but before he fell, another was repeated in the ſame Manner, which brought him to the Ground, where he lay ſome Minutes motionleſs: The inhuman Wretch ſtood over him, in order to diſcover if any Signs of Life remain'd, and upon finding him ſtir, and put up his Hand to his Face to wipe of the Blood which quite blinded him, took up the ſame Tomahawk that had brought him thus near his End, and with one fatal Blow ſunk it in his Skull. This tragical Scene renewed their Sport, they affecting to imitate his expiring Agonies: There remained nothing now to compleat their inhuman Barbarity but to ſcalp him, which was done almoſt in an Inſtant. It is impoſſible to deſcribe my Horror on ſeeing this: Death, attended with its moſt frightful Terrors, ſtared me in the Face, and I even wiſhed I had been ſo happy as to have been firſt out of Pain, and not lived to ſee what I undoubtedly thought next Moment would be my own Fate thus barbarouſly acted in that of my Companion. The cruel Monſters all over beſmeared with his Blood advanced towards me, and told me with an Air of Inſult, nothing but my good Behaviour for the future, ſhould ſave me from the ſame Treatment; and ſo untied my Hands, which were ſo benumb'd that I hardly ever expected to be able to uſe them.

We now advanced again towards my Houſe, and in a little Time came within Sight of it: But alas! with what Regret did I introduce my Gueſts to my poor Wife: She, poor Thing, upon ſeeing them, had like to have fallen into Fits. I gave her all the Conſolation I was able, tho' Horror and Deſpair was viſible in my very Looks: I told her, Cries and Tears would now avail nothing, and ſhe could not better recommend herſelf to our Maſters Favour than by being chearful, and ready to obey. Whilſt I was thus employed the *Indians* were buſied in ranſacking the Houſe from Top to Bottom, of every Thing they thought worth taking, and after they had made up a Sack of Meal for me, and a Bundle of Cloaths for my Wife to carry, commanded us to depart. Here our Grief again renewed on leaving our Houſe, Stock, Grain, and in ſhort our All, behind us, without being able to depute any one to take Care of them in our Abſence, or the moſt diſtant Proſpect of ever returning to them. Theſe Reflections, however juſt, availed us Nothing, for before we left Sight of the Houſe, the Captain

* Burns *had been taken Priſoner by the* Delaware Indians *ſome Time before* Fleming, *and was carried to the Wigwams, but being one Day ſent to a Spring for Water, with an* Indian *Guard, in returning, he ſtopped under Pretence of tying his Mockaſheens which were looſe, till the* Indian *who was his Guard got out of Sight; when he immediately mounted a Horſe nigh at Hand, and rode full Speed to the inhabited Parts of the Province.*

Captain ordered *Jim*, to return and set Fire to it, which he did so effectually, that in a few Minutes the whole was in a Blaze. As complaining of this Hardship to our cruel Persecutors would have no more effect than speaking to the Wind, we addressed ourselves to the Almighty for his Protection, with a becoming Resignation to whatever might be our Fate. When we set off from my House it was about three o'Clock in the Afternoon, we directed our Course right back in the Woods about Half a Mile, they bid us put down our Luggage, and the Captain ordered *Jim* and me to go and hunt Horses to carry my Wife and the Luggage, which we accordingly did, but not getting any, we went to the aforesaid *Hicks*'s, and in going down the Lane towards the House *Jim* took hold of me by the Shoulder, and in approaching the House, always kept me between him and it, thinking they would not shoot at me, and if they did, I should screen him from the Shot; when we came up to the Door of the House, which was open, he quitted me, and jump'd into the House, with his Tomahawk in one Hand and Gun in the other, but found the People all gone, for on the Alarm aforesaid, the whole of the Family, seven in Number, had deserted the House, and were making towards a Fort, but, unhappily for them, fell in with another Party of said *Indians*, who murdered two of them, and took the rest Prisoners [as I afterwards was informed by the Inhabitants of *Conococheague*.] When he found that the House was deserted, he rumaged up such Things as pleased him best, and carried 'em to some Distance where he laid them down, then he set Fire to the House, and ordered me to gather up all Things that were of Use to the Owners and put them therein, and at the same Time bid me set Fire to the Barn, in which was a large Quantity of Grain, and likewise to several Barracks of Grain and Fodder that stood by it, which I seem'd heartily to comply with, but purposely avoided firing the Barn and Grain by employing myself in gathering up the first mentioned, and burning them. When all Things were thrown in the Fire that was near the House, we went to make up our Bundles in order to make off, but *Jim* looking about him, discovered that the Barn, *&c.* were not fired according to his Orders; he ask'd me what was the Reason I had not done it? I excus'd myself by telling him I was fully employ'd in burning the other Things; he then hastily ran and took a Brand of Fire, and quickly set them all in Flames. We then made the best of our Way with the Plunder to the Place where we had left Capt. *Jacob* and my Wife, found their Bundles, but they gone, while I was conjecturing the Reason, *Jim* gave a Whistle, and the Captain answer'd; (who had mov'd himself to some Distance, for Security, left I should by some Means or other kill *Jim*, and bring the white People upon him). When he discovered where they were, we ran to him, and *Jim* related our Success, and told how well (as he said) I had behaved. Upon which the Captain gave me his Hand, and said, '*Well done Brother, you shall go to War with us* '*To-morrow.*

My Wife's Relation of what passed betwixt her and Captain *Jacob*, after I and *Jim* went away to catch Horses, is as follows: '*She was very* '*uneasy to be left alone with Captain* Jacob, *and* '*wanted to go after us to help catch the Horses; but* '*he would not suffer it, saying, She was not able,* '*and she must stay with him till we returned,* '*further adding, that she need not be afraid of him* '*for he would not hurt her; he then threw a* '*Shirt of mine to her, and an old Petticoat, order-*'*ed her to strip and put on the Shirt and Petticoat,* '*which she complied with, and while she was doing* '*it, he turn'd his Back on her, and went to some* '*Distance with the other* Indian's *Bundle, and* '*plunder'd it of such Things as he liked. When he* '*return'd he took the Cloaths she pull'd off and put* '*them in his Bundle, and bid her not tell* Jim *what* '*he had done; then they mov'd off to some Distance,* '*where we found them.*'

About Sun-down we pitched on a Place for our Lodging, and our next Business was to get Wood and make a Fire, round which we sat without Distinction; which to Persons in our Circumstances, may be esteemed a Mark of no small Condescension.

My Wife being emboldened by the Familiarity of our Masters ask'd them several Questions touching their Reasons for using the *English* as they did, seeing they had always treated the *Indians* (particularly the *Delawares* and *Shawanese*) with the greatest Friendship: To this they answered, '*That* '*when a Number of* Indians *offered to join G*-----*'* '*B*------*k against the* French, *he did not use them* '*well, and had threatened to destroy all the* Indians '*on the Continent, after they had conquered the* '*French, and they were informed by the* French, '*the* Pennsylvanians, Marylanders *and* Virginians '*had laid the same Plot.*' She then asked, what they intended to do with those they took Prisoners: To which the Captain answered, '*That they had* '*been order'd by the* French *to bring them all to* '*the* Ohio, *when you get there, you shall live well,* '*and be given as Kindred to our Friends. (Which* '*I did not believe, as they told my Wife one Story,* '*and me another; but expected every Moment to* '*be sacrificed by them; yet so far as I could learn,* '*the* French *were to allow them a certain Sum* per *Scalp and for Prisoners, if they were young,* '*and fit for Business; but the old People and Chil-*'*dren they kill'd and scalp'd, as well as such as* '*were refractory and not willing to go with them.*') She then asked them if they did not think it a Sin to shed so much innocent Blood? They answered, '*That the* French *were better off than the* Englisli, '*for they had a great many old Men among them* '*that could forgive all their Sins, and these Men* '*had often assured the* Indians *it was no Sin to* '*destroy* Hereticks, *and all the* Englisli *were such.* '*They then told me not to be afraid that they should* '*abuse my Wife, for they would not do it for Fear of* '*affronting their GOD (and pointed their Hands* '*toward Heaven) for the Man that affronts his* '*GOD, will surely be kill'd when he goes out to* '*War; this, continued they, is what makes the* 'Englisli *have such bad Luck.*'

They sat up eating Bread and Cheese, and dry'd Peaches, and smoaking Tobacco, (which they got at *Hicks*'s) having had no Tobacco, as they told us, for four or five Days, and were in great Want of it. While they were thus employ'd, I heard a Noise, which I could not tell the Reason of. The *Indians* observing my listening, said, '*It is* '*nothing but the Spirit of that Son of a Whore* '*whom we kill'd.*' My Wife then ask'd them if they were not afraid of his Spirit? They answered, '*No! for they were frequently us'd to see them,* '*not only of white People, but of the* Indian *Na-*'*tions they were at War with; but that Spirits* '*could not hurt them.*'

About two Hours before Day our Masters being tired with Acts of Cruelty, began to think of composing themselves to Rest. They first shewed us where and how to lie, then laid down themselves with their Guns under them, lest we might use them to their Prejudice: Being thus disposed, it was not long before they fell into a deep Sleep, which my Wife being watchful to observe, began to think on making use of the Opportunity put into our Hands of making an Escape: She communicated her Sentiments in Whispers to me, and it is reasonable to think, I should readily concur in whatever might have a Prospect of accomplishing what I so ardently desired: But as a Miscarriage in an Attempt of this Nature would infallibly have proved our Ruin, common Prudence required we should act cautiously, and be sure they were in reality in as deep a Slumber as they pretended to be: To this end, we got up, and went to the Fire, under Pretence of mending it, and warming ourselves, (and indeed we stood in need of it having Nothing to defend us from the Inclemency of the Weather, but a single Blanket). In all which we made so much Bustle and Noise, as we judged might awake Persons in an ordinary Sleep: But finding they still snoared on, I took up a Tankard, and told my Wife I would go towards a Spring, at which I had been frequently before, and if after I had got there they still slept on, desired she might follow: And added, that if they should awake e're we got off, our having the Tankard might convince them we really wanted to quench our Thirst.

When we took leave of our cold Lodging, we had no Intention of separating: For tho' we left the Fire at different Times, we intended to meet at the Spring, but after I had got there, and waited some Time, I at last saw her a coming, I threw down my Tankard intending to hide myself on the other Side the Run in a Thicket till she came up; but in my Hurry, I ran against a Sapling which stunn'd me, and I lay in this Condition some Time (during which I suppose my Wife came to the Run and not finding me made the best of her Way off). When I recovered, I went on in the best Manner I could till Day began to dawn, when I found myself within Sight of a House, to my unspeakable Joy: When I advanced near it I knew the Place, which however was quite abandoned by the Dwellers.

Having now a tolerable good Knowlege of my Situation I made directly to the next inhabited Part of *Conococheague*; when I got there, I was informed that a Company of Three Hundred Men from *Marsh-Creek* were out in quest of the Enemy under Colonel *Hamilton*; I joined myself as soon as I could with these, intending to return with them and try to find out my Wife, with whose Condition I was now more affected, being out of Danger myself.

We went on viewing the Devastation, till we came to *Adam M'Connell*'s Plantation, where we met with a Party of Ten Men, who had separated from this Company some Time before: These brought in a Woman who they said was found by them at an Oven in great Distress; and whom, upon my nearer Approach, to my unspeakable Surprize I found to be my Wife.

After greeting each other in the most affectionate Manner, with Tears of Joy, we returned Thanks to that Indulgent Being who led us safe through the Wilderness, and preserved us from the Jaws of Death. When she recovered her Transports, we desired a Relation of her Adventures from the unhappy Moment she and I parted; which she gave in Substance as follows:

[*What happened to* ELIZABETH FLEMING, *in her Escape from Captain* Jacob, *may be expected in our next:*]

CHARLES-TOWN, South-Carolina, February 19.

SINCE our last, we have learnt, that the Acadians who lately robbed the House of Mr. John Williams at Santee, tho' it was thought they would have laid their Bones in the Swamp they had got into, have escaped from thence, and crossed the River at Maxwell's Bluff, on a Bark Log.---We hear, that People in the Country are determined that no more of them shall escape that Way, or any other by Land; but it is probable these may reach Fort du Quesne, or Canada (as we hear, some have hinted they could easily find the Way) unless intercepted in some of the neighbouring Colonies thro' which they must pass.

February 26. His Majesty's Ship Garland, Captain Arbuthnot Commander, soon after she convoyed the Store Ship into Providence, sailed on a Cruize from thence against the French.

ANTIGUA, *February* 3.

On Sunday arrived here the Paragon, John Thibou, Master, who sailed from hence the 3d of December, for Cape Francois, with a Flag of Truce from his Excellency, having on board a French Jesuit, and two Ladies lately taken in the Duc d'Acquitaine by Commodore Frankland's Squadron: From him we have the following Particulars:

He arrived at the Cape the 11th of December, 1755. and applying to Governor Chattenoye delivered him the Letter from his Excellency General Thomas, and also shewed him his Commission. After having Translated it into French, he answered, that, as War was not declared, he did not look upon it as a Truce, but as a Vessel come to Trade: He told him there was an absolute Necessity for detaining him until he received an Answer from the General Governor residing at Porto Prince in the Bight of Lugan, the Post arriving from thence every Tenth Day.------The Captain found, that the Reason for this was as follows: A French Frigate, which had landed Troops and warlike Stores for that Port, then lay there, with 25 Troops and Stores on board for Porto Prince, and was bound from thence to the Mississippi, with 50 Swiss Troops and Stores for the Garrisons there; but as two of our Men of War, who had taken some of their Ships, and cut one out of Porto Paix since the Captain's Arrival, were then Cruizing off Cape Nichola, they imagined that if he sailed before the Frigate, he would run down and inform them of her coming out, as they sailed in her Track, so that, in his opinion, they could hardly miss her. They exclaim greatly against Governor Knowles, and say the Ships would not have cruized there but by his orders. They have now at Cape Francois upwards of 300 Sail of Ships, several of which are ready to Sail but afraid to put out. Their King's Sloop, which Guards the Coast, narrowly escaped being taken by one of our Ships in her Passage from Porto Prince to this Cape. The French at this Cape are making all due Preparations against an Invasion: They have 400 Negroes at Work Intrenching round the Cape, several Mechanics employed in repairing their Garrisons, others making new Carriages for their Guns, which are, he says, as good as ever he saw. Their Fortress, at the Entrance of this Port, mounts 42 Thirty Two Pounders, another small Battery within that mounts 18 Eighteen Pounders, the Walls thereof slight and of no great Thickness, and lying under the Declivity of a Hill, so that a few Broadsides from our Ships would choak up their Cannon with the Ruins of their Walls behind, which would do more Execution than our Shot. A Number of Ships of War may easily Pass these two Forts, as the Distance is but short, by taking the Advantage of a fresh Sea Breeze, which comes in about Ten in the Morning, and at Times blows very hard. After these Dangers are past, a breast the Town, are 54 Eighteen Pounders to play against level with the Sea, in a Line at the Head of the Town, their Walls and Embrasures but slight. There is nothing more to obstruct, but the Inhabitants, which, including the Troops, when they mounted Guard on Christmas Eve, were 4000: They have amongst their Troops many Swiss, who, as they have told the above mentioned Captain, would willingly Exchange their Service for the English, their Pay being small. Cape Francois is a pleasant Town, but very Sickly, and mostly Foggy, owing to its being seated under the High Land: Their Buildings are Low, but Pleasant; it abounds in fresh Provisions, Roots and Greens; the Canes in common are 12 and 14 Feet long, and very Thick, Price of Sugar 20 s. per Cent, Melasses, 18 s. per English Hogshead, Rum at 6 l. ditto, Indigo 20 s. 6 d. per Pound, Coffee 6 d. per Pound. The Captain, as a Subject of Great-Britain, thought it his Duty to inform himself of the State of the French Affairs,

and made it his Business to enquire into every Thing of which he here gives an Account. They are Building some small Forts along the Coast, one at Porto Paix, and others at Places where there is a Convenience of Landing. There are Three principal Officers, in this Town, viz. the Governor, who at the Arrival of every Ship from Africa, of which a great Number come here annually, has the Choice of the best Slave on Board, as his Perquisite; the Lieutenant du Roi, next in Post to the Governor; next him, the Town Major: Several others hold Posts under them. On the 28th of December he was permitted to Sail, having had the whole Time he was there a Detachment of Soldiers, with an Officer, on Board, and not permitted to go on Shore, but when sent for by the Governor, in Custody of the Serjeant Major, who would not even permit him to stop in the Streets. No Person nor Boat durst come on Board their Vessel, nor durst any of their People go out of it. All Nations whatever, except French, were imprisoned if found in their Town: The Captain of a Spanish Sloop was put in Prison, and kept there during Pleasure, for having Guns on board. Capt. Thibou complained to the Governor, that it was very hard to make him Prisoner on board his own Vessel, and not to suffer even a Boat to go on board with a few Refreshments; but was answered, that he had Reasons for it. Guard Boats row all Night round the Harbour, hailing every Ship they pass by, and calling out to them to keep a good Watch, in order to prevent Fires amongst them, for the Vessels lie as close to each other as the Trees in a Wood. He was supplied with some Bread, Water, and Wood by the Governor, who took nothing for them.

P. S. The Entrance into this Harbour, or rather Bason, is somewhat dangerous; the Easternmost Part of it is environed with an Iron bound Reef, which, with the Cape, forms the Channel; in which, on the Cape side, and when thro' the Passage, are several Banks; on these they have Log Buoys, and Flag Staffs fixed thereon for the hoisting of small Flags: On the first, on the Starboard Hand, is a red one; farther Southerly are Banks on which they have both blue and white ones continually flying as Marks for their Ships coming in. They had in going in 5, and not less than 4 Fathom Water.

NEWBERN, in North-Carolina, February 13.

We hear from Salisbury, in Rowan County, that a Gang of Robbers (under the Command of one William Owen, whom they call their Captain) being six in Number, have lately infested our Frontier Settlements, where they have committed several Robberies, and barbarously murdered one Man; that having fortified themselves in a strong Place in the Mountains, they carried off two Negroes from Virginia, broke open a Store there, and stole a considerable Quantity of Goods: About a Fortnight ago one of their Gang (named Cumberland) surrendered himself, and turn'd King's Evidence; who declares, their Design was to plunder and rob till they got a Booty; with which they were to go off to the French, and pilot them into our Back Settlements; but by the Care and Vigilance of our Frontier Inhabitants, their Fort has been reduced to Ashes, their Wives taken, and are now in Rowan Goal, and themselves narrowly escaped. There are 40 Horsemen now after them, and 'tis hoped they will be suppressed and punished, as such Enemies to their Country deserve.

BOSTON, *March 1.*

Extract of a Letter from an Officer at Fort Cumberland, in Nova-Scotia, dated February 6, 1756.

"—" Col. Scott having fitted out a Party of Men in the same Dress of the Canadians and Indians, which Party Ensign Brewer Commanded, being 30—They set out after a Snow fell towards Minas-Basin-cook, and had not gone far in that Road before he met with three Acadians, who came to him imagining them to be one of their own Parties, and would have taken six more immediately, but by the Eagerness of the Serjeant who fired, discovered the Wolf; therefore were obliged to return without other Success.—These Prisoners upon Examination acquainted Col. Scott, That Monsieur Beauhebere, Mon. De ber Villee and 15 Regulars, with 18 Canadians, and about 300 Indians, with their Families, to the Number of 1000, were assembled at Shediac (opposite the Isle of St John) to live upon the Cattle of the Country.—That Monsieur Beauhebere was preparing to come with a Party to fall upon our People when getting their Wood.—Upon which Col. Scott propos'd going to visit Monsieur Beauhebere; and by a Council that he call'd, it was agreed to prepare 500 Men for this Undertaking: Whereupon all the Taylors were employed in making Indian Stockings, Cases for their Firelocks, Mittens and Waistcoats, and the French Prisoners in making Mogasons. When our Preparations were about two Thirds compleated, a Deserter came to us (a German who had been one of the first at Halifax) who acquainted us of M. Beauhebere's being marched with about 130 Indians, and that he came with a Certainty of Success, as he had sent a Party 10 Days before to reconnoitre, who had it in their Power alone (as they reported) to have kill'd 50 of our Men; but their Orders were not to discover themselves. The Deserter assured us that he knew the very Place where M. Beauhebere would halt, and that he would lead a Party directly upon him in the Night.—This to us all was welcome News; and 'twas immediately resolved upon to set out with 350 Men which Col. Scott himself went to command. We began our March at 11 o'Clock, and thro' as bad a Road as was ever march'd, being half Leg deep all the Way in Snow Water: We got to the wish'd for Place just before Dawn, but to our great Mortification there were no Enemy there; and by the Hurry and Eagerness of our Front, who first came to the House where we imagin'd they were, and fir'd a Platoon, which making an Alarm, we concluded it would be in vain to seek further. We made Fires there and refreshed our Men, and in two Hours set out upon our Return; but we had scarce quit the Woods with our Rear when they set up their Yell, and gave us a Fire, which our brave New-England Men quickly return'd, and answered their Cry; and the whole facing about pursued them into the Woods, but to little Purpose.

The Indians in their first Discharge kill'd poor Serjeant Read, and another of Warburton's, which were all that were hurt; the Indians upon seeing them fall, endeavour'd to scalp them; but the Rear which consisted of two New-England Officers, and about 15 of their Men, kept them off until more came. Several of our People followed the Enemy into the Woods, but it began to blow and snow extremely hard, and our Men fatigued with the Night's March, we call'd back our People and return'd: Those that followed the Indians and French into the Woods, assured us, that they found the Blood in two or three Places of kill'd or wounded Men, and brought off with them 8 or 10 Pair of Snow Shoes, with a Pistol and other Trifles: Upon our going off the second Time, they came and fired upon our Rear (who kill'd one Indian) without hurting a Man of ours.—This Deserter is a most knowing clever Fellow; he has been a Sort of Prime Minister to the Priests Le Luthier and Pere Jemin, in their Indian Affairs, which he knows thoroughly, and all the Country: He says, that the St. John's Indians now have the Small-pox, having lately lost 15 by it, that the Penobscots brought it amongst them, which Tribe is now almost reduced to nothing, having lost 260 last Summer and this Winter. The Peasants that remain in the Country are in the greatest Misery, living in the Woods, and must soon surrender or starve, if they cannot get off to the Island of St. John, which is their Design, that being the Reason of Mons. Beauhebere making Shediack his Quarters on Account of the Contiguousness of that River with St. John."——

March 15. This Morning arrived here in Three Days from Halifax, General WINSLOW.

We have an Account from several Towns to the Eastward, that last Thursday, between 3 and 4 o'Clock in the Afternoon, there was a small Shock of an Earthquake sensibly felt by a Number of Persons in each Place.

NEW-YORK, *March 8.*

Extract of a Letter from the Head Quarters on Delaware, dated February 24.

"We arrived here in good Health the 13th Instant, and have posted our Men along the Frontiers for near eighty Miles in Length. Since we came here the Indians have been very quiet, none having appeared even on t'other Side the River: Our Men have been over three Times; the last Time they burnt their Wigwams, but found no Indians. Every Thing here has a dreary Appearance; the Place is environed with almost inaccessible Mountains, the Farms on the River Side quite abandoned, their Houses and Barns mostly burnt; and the People in general gone over to the Jersey Side. Notwithstanding we are come here for the Protection of the Place, and tho' the Inhabitants are sensible their Poultry, &c. would be either destroyed by the Indians, or otherwise lost, they are so ungrateful, that knowing we want such Necessaries, they impose almost double the Price we can buy them for in New-York Markets."

Capt. Goodwin, in 35 Days from the Bay of Honduras, informs us, That about two Weeks before he sail'd, Capt. Manchester, in a Brig belonging to Rhode-Island, was lost at the East End of Rattan, and that the chiefest Part of her Cargo, and all the Crew were saved.

George Christopher, late Master of the Brig Charming Polly, which arrived here a few Days before Capt. Goodwin from the Bay, under the Command of R. Winter, had the Misfortune to lose his Life at that Place in the following Manner:—Himself and another New-York Captain, having challenged a Bayman at a Rowing-Match, were accordingly on the Day appointed seated in each of their Skiffs, ready to start, when Capt. Fairley, who was pitcht upon to fire the starting Gun, not taking her to be loaded with shot, did notwithstanding very imprudently level her at the Boat where the two New-York Captains were; and discharging it immediately on the Word *Fire*, between 15 and 20 Swan Shot enter'd into the Heart of Christopher's Breast, who falling back presently appear'd in a Gore of Blood, and never motioned afterwards. Fairley directly surrendered himself to the Persons present, saying, that he had rashly killed the most intimate Friend he ever had; and there being now a Court of Judicature held in the Bay, by the Appointment of Governor Knowles, it is beyond Doubt he will be acquitted, and the Affair be brought in *Accidental*.

By a Gentleman that arrived here since our last, from Goshen, we have the following Intelligence, viz. That on the 26th of February, Gilbert Bradner, having Occasion to go to his Plantation, four Miles from that Place, to clean Flax, upon his Arrival, as he stood at the Door of his House (waiting for a Man that promised to meet him there) he espied two Indians standing at one of his Barracks; but as they did not see him, he went into the House, brought out his Gun, and having chose a good Station, he spoke to one of the Indians, named Harry Orrey, whom he knew very well; but they being shy of each other, and the Indians seeing Bradner prepared for them, they thought it prudent to betake themselves to a Swamp that lay contiguous, keeping the Barrack at the same Time, between them and him; and Bradner suspecting there was more of them in the Swamp, made the best of his Way also.

The next Day, Morgan Owen and another Man, went to a Plantation three Miles out of Goshen, to clean Wheat; and some short Time after they reach'd the Place, Owen went to catch a Horse, that he might feed him at the Place where they were working; but he had not been long gone, before his Companion heard two Guns discharged, when he directly seized his Piece, and looking round, saw three Indians approaching him, the Foremost of which was attack'd by his Dog, who puzzled him to such a Degree, that he at Length was obliged to shoot him; so that the whole three Indians had then discharged their Pieces, the two first having, as it was supposed, fired theirs by Way of a Decoy. The white Man immediately took to his Heels, and had nigh been taken Prisoner, having, in his Flight, fell two or three Times; and the Indians continuing the Pursuit, he at Length turn'd about, presented his Piece, and told the Indians, the first that approached him, should die (neither of them having yet loaded their Pieces) which intimidated them to such a Degree, that he soon got out of their Sight, and hid himself in a Meadow behind a Log. The Indians came nigh the Place where he lay, and rested themselves on a Fence, but soon steer'd another Way. A short Time after they disappeared, several Shot was heard, by which he suspected his Companion Morgan Owen, had fell into their Hands, which proved too true, as he was afterwards found in the Woods, shot in three different Places, and scalped in a very inhuman Manner.

This Gentleman says farther, That in his Way hither, on Wednesday last, he stop'd at Col. Ellison's who had that Day received a Letter from Major Cadwallader Golden, junr. informing him, That he had just heard, some of our People had killed an Indian Fellow, named Isaac, and his Squaw, that they found at the House of one George Stevens; that they were greatly exasperated with the Indians, vow'd Vengeance against all their Colour, were actually gone to destroy some Wigwams where the above mentioned Harry Orrey had lately been seen, and that many Guns were heard soon after they set out.

March 22. Tuesday last Capt. Crannell, arrived here in Ten Weeks from Cadiz, and informs us, that no English Vessels had arrived there for some Time before he sailed; that the Damage done there by the Earthquake, (by which Lisbon was destroy'd) was very inconsiderable, not above 300 People having lost their Lives, and those only without the Gates, they having fled to escape the Danger, were drowned by the sudden and unexpected Flux of the Tide; that a few Days before his Departure, they received Advice there, that a smart Shock had been felt at Seville, by which about 20 Houses were swallowed up. In Capt. Crannell are come Passengers, the Captains Masterson, Bynank and Strange of this Port, who were taken on their Passages from hence for the Bay, about 18, or 20 Months ago, by the Spaniards, who, after confining them in Goal for some Time, sent them to Old Spain.

The Ferry Boat that sunk in our Bay, on Thursday the 11th Instant, was found about one Mile up the North-River, the Sunday following, with one of the drowned Men, named Fling, two Horses, (the other having swam to Bedlow's Island) two Saddles, two Pair of Saddle-Bags, and some Cloaths belonging to the Battoe Men, in her. The Strangers, that were drown'd, whose Names we could not obtain last Week, were John Miller and William Miller, Cousins, both of Betacus, on Long-Island; and William Lawrence, Shipwright, of Raway, New-Jersey.

ANNAPOLIS, *April 1.*

On Friday last, a Writ of Election was sent down to the Sheriff of *Charles* County, to elect a Representative in the room of Mr. *Henry Moore*, who, with his Family, has removed into *Virginia*.

Last Monday Evening, from VIII till past X, we had a pretty deal of Lightning from the East, when there was not the least Cloud to be seen in all the Horizon.

CUSTOM-HOUSE, ANNAPOLIS, *Entered*,

Sloop Newport, Nicholas Price, from Virginia;
Snow Nancy, James Reith, from Barbados.

Cleared for Departure,

Sloop Elizabeth, Edmund Rutland, for Virginia;
Schooner Sea-Flower, N. Bowers, for Boston.

JOSHUA DORSEY,

THOUGH he has left off Public House-Keeping, hereby acquaints the PUBLIC, That he still keeps the FERRY as usual, on each Side of *Patapsco* RIVER, and that he, nevertheless, will ENTERTAIN Gentlemen Travellers, or Others, as PRIVATE LODGERS, in the best Manner.

THERE is at the Plantation of Mr. *Josias Wilson*, in *Prince-George's* County, taken up as Strays, *viz.*

A small grey Mare, with a Bob Tail, branded on the near Buttock with a G.

And, a Bay Horse about 12 Hands high, has a Blaze down his Face, his two Feet white on the near Side, and is branded on the near Shoulder and Buttock with M, and a Figure of 4 on the Top of it.

The Owners may have them again, on proving their Property, and paying Charges.

St. CHRIS-

St. CHRISTOPHER's, January 30.

Capt. Falkingham, in the Tryal Sloop of War, has sent in here one large Bermuda Sloop loaded with Sugar, Melasses, Cocoa and Coffee; and two Schooners deeply loaded with the same Commodities; and one Schooner with Beef, Butter, Mackarel and dry Goods; all which were taken to the Southward of St. Kitt's the 28th and 29th Instant. The Tryal sails again To-Morrow, on a Cruize.

PHILADELPHIA, *March 11.*

In a Letter from Juniata, in Cumberland County, dated the 24th of last Month, there is Advice, that Captain Patterson being out with a Scouting Party, in order to scour the Woods as far as Shamokin, on the 20th of that Month fell in with some Indians at Middle-Creek, one of which they killed and scalped, put the rest to Flight, and took three of their Horses: That one of Captain Patterson's Men was wounded: That the Woods from Juniata to Shamokin, are full of Indians, seeking for Plunder and Scalps: That they found many Houses burnt, and some burning; and that it was feared but few in a short Time would be standing, and that all the Grain would be destroyed.

We hear from Berks County, that on Saturday Evening last the House and Barn of Barnabas Sictle, and the Mill of Peter Conrad, were burnt down, and the Wife of Balsar Neysong killed, and his Son, a Child of eight Years old, taken Captive, by three Indians; and that next Morning Sictle's Servant informed Captain Morgan of the Mischief done at his Master's Plantation, whereupon he, with seven of his Men, immediately went in Search of the Enemy, but did not meet with any: And that on his Return he overtook one David Howell in his Way to the Fort, who informed him, that three Indians had fired five times at him, and the last time shot him through his Arm.

We hear further, from the same County, that six of the Regulars quartered at Reading have deserted, and that two, who some time since deserted from Easton, and were taken and put into Reading Goal, made their Escape last Week over the Prison Wall.

The following Account of Mischief done by the Indians at the Plantation of Philip Bussart, in Northampton County, on the other Side of the Blue Mountains, between Fort Norris and Fort Hamilton, was sent in a Letter from Mr. J. Matthew Otto to a Gentleman at Bethlehem, dated March 5. viz. That on the first Instant one Muhlhaus, who was breaking Flax there, was shot through the Body, and the Wound thought to be mortal: That a Boy of George Minier's was standing at the Door, and received a Shot in the Breast, upon which he went into the House to get his Gun, and as he was cocking it fell down dead: That then Bussart's Son ran out of the House, when he was shot in several Places, and died soon after: That Bussart himself, and an Indian, fired at one another, when he was wounded in the Arm, and the Indian shot in the Back, who ran off, making an howling Noise: And that some of Bussart's Neighbours, who came to his Assistance, heard a Groaning at a Distance, thought to be that of two wounded Indians; that they saw five Indians; and that in the Beginning there were eight of them seen.

TO BE SOLD BY PUBLIC VENDUE,

(For the Benefit of the Under-Writers on the Sloop Hester *and Cargo, lately cast away near the Capes of* Virginia) *on Friday the Ninth Day of* April, *at the Warehouse on the Dock, near Mr.* Middleton's,

2 THE Sails, Rigging, Anchors, and Cables, of the said Sloop: Also good *West-India* Rum, Candles, Soap, &c. for ready Money, or Bills of Exchange.

The Sale to begin at III o'Clock in the Afternoon.

March 23, 1756

RAN away from the *Baltimore* Iron-Works, on *Patapsco*, in *Maryland*, on Saturday Night last, an *Irish* Servant Man, named *Thomas Ivory*, he is about 27 Years of Age, pretends to be a Marble-Cutter by Trade, was imported about two Years ago into *Patapsco* River, is about five Feet six Inches high, slender and smooth fac'd, has sandy Hair, and speaks pretty much on the Brogue. Had on when he went away, an old Felt Hat, a red Worsted Cap, old brown Coat, Cotton Jacket and Breeches trimm'd with Leather Buttons, two Osnabrigs Shirts, coarse Country Shoes and Stockings.

He has stolen an Indenture, with a Discharge on it, belonging to one *James Moore*, who was born in the *Jerseys*, and no Doubt will endeavour to pass by it.

Whoever takes up said Servant, and secures him, so that he may be had again, shall have *Thirty Shillings* Reward, if taken 20 Miles from home; *Forty Shillings*, if taken 40 Miles from home; *Three Pounds*, if taken at a greater Distance; if taken out of the Province, *Three Pistoles*; and reasonable Charges if brought home, paid by RICHARD CROXALL.

THERE is in the Possession of *Henry Boone*, in *Prince George's* County, taken up as a Stray, a White Mare, about thirteen Hands high, branded on the off Buttock with a Heart; and had on a small Bell.

The Owner may have her again, on proving his Property, and paying Charges.

IN the Hands of *John Pearson*, at Col. *Tasker's* Plantation, in *Prince-George's* County, a beautiful Black Horse, full 15 Hands high, and will Cover Mares this Season, at Four Guineas a Leap and Trial. Good Care will be taken of the Mares. The Dam of this Horse, was bred by the Duke of *Somerset*, and Got by THE HAMPTON-COURT CHILDERS. His Sire, was my Lord *Portmore's* CRAB, Sire of OROONOKO, SLOE, BLACK AND ALL-BLACK, and many other STALLIONS now in great Repute. 3

LENT in Town, but to whom forgot, the following Books, *viz.*

Broughton on Husbandry and Trade, 1st Vol. *Gulliver's* Travels; 2d Vol. of Dean *Swift's* Miscellanies, 4to. History of *Lewis* 14th, 1st Vol. *Voltaire's* Letters concerning the *English* Nation; Tale of a Tub; 1st, 7th, and 9th Vols. of *Rollin's* Ancient History; Guardian, 3 Vols. Spectator, 2 Vols. and *Kennett's* Roman Antiquities.

The Borrowers, or present Possessors of 'em, by returning of them, will greatly oblige the Owner.

3 JOHN BENNETT.

N. B. My Name (if not eras'd) is, either in the Title-Page, or on the preceding Leaf.

TO BE SOLD, 3

A TRACT of choice Land, lying on *Rock-Creek*, in *Frederick* County, called *Thompson's Adventure*, containing 50 Acres, and is adjoining to *John Baldwin Adamson's*.

Any Person inclining to purchase, may enquire of *John Thompson* in *Annapolis*, and know further.

NOTICE is hereby given, That a Ferry at *Joppa*, a-cross GUN-POWDER-RIVER, is now kept by the Subscriber, who has a good Boat and Hands for the Purpose; and a constant Attendance is given. 3 ISAAC RISTEAU.

WHEREAS it has been reported, by some ill-disposed Person, with a Design of prejudicing me, that I was run away; this, therefore, is to give Notice, that I am still living at *Broad-Creek*, on *Kent-Island*, and keep Ferry as usual, where all Gentlemen may depend on having good Boats and skilful Hands, and kind Usage, from

4 *Their humble Servant,*
DANIEL MECONEKIN.

Marlborough, February 16, 1756.

STOLEN from the Subscriber's Plantation, near the *Wood-Yard*, in the Night of Sunday the 8th Instant, a Roan Mare about 13 Hands high, branded on the near Buttock and other Places with an H, has a Blaze Face and two Lumps on the Ridge of her Back, she is heavy with Foal. It is supposed she was stolen by a Runaway who was at the Plantation about Midnight and enquired the Way to *St. Mary's* County, he was a tall middle-aged Fellow, had a Felt Hat and Worsted Cap, an Osnabrigs Shirt, brown Waistcoat, Leather Breeches, and blue Leggings.

Also on Saturday the 14th, was stolen from the same Plantation, a black Mare about 13¼ Hands high, branded IG on the near Buttock, E on the near Shoulder, and a Heart on the near Side of her Neck, she is likewise with Foal; there is a poor little tired One left: A few Hours after she was stolen, a tall Mulatto Fellow was seen riding her by Mr. *Ignatius Digges's*, towards *Marlborough*; he had on her a Bag and Wallet full of something that had the Appearance of Goods, and it is supposed has broke some Store on *Patowmack*, and is making off with the Goods.

Any Person that will bring either of the said Mares to the Subscriber, shall have Ten Shillings Reward for each, and Thirty Shillings more for each of the Fellons, if either of them can be taken and convict. 7 J. HEPBURN.

TO BE SOLD,

A TRACT or Parcel of Land, being one Moiety of a Tract of Land called *Clean Drinking*, lying in *Frederick* County, on *Rock-Creek*, within six Miles of the Warehouse at *George-Town*, the said Moiety contains 625 Acres, of a good Soil, and well timber'd; whereon is a Dwelling House, and two Tobacco Houses, also a good Apple and Peach Orchard. 4

Any Person inclinable to purchase the said Land, may know the Title, and Terms of Sale, by applying to the Subscriber, living near lower *Cedar-Point*, in *Charles* County.

ARTHUR LEE.

Oxford, February 9, 1756.

To be SOLD, at Oxford, *on reasonable Terms, for Bills, Current Money, Tobacco, Wheat, Corn, and short Credit,*

THE Stock in Trade of *Richard Gildart*, Esq; and SONS, of *Liverpool*, Merchants. All Persons inclin'd to purchase are desired soon to apply to the Subscriber, who intends for *England* early in the next Summer, and gives this public Notice to all those who have any Demands on the said Company, or himself, or are in Arrears to either, that they may come and settle their respective Accounts, and avoid further Trouble to themselves, and THOMAS BRERETON.

To be SOLD for Bills of Exchange, or Sterling Money,

A TRACT of Land containing 190 Acres, lying on the *South* Side of *Magothy* River, situated very pleasant and convenient for Fishing and Fowling, and within 5 Miles of *Annapolis*, whereon is a good Dwelling-House, Kitchen, Meat-House, a Negro Quarter, two Corn-Houses, a Garden, well-paled in, and two Orchards.

Also a young Negro Wench, a Negro Girl, and a Negro Boy.

For Terms apply to the Printer hereof.

TO BE SOLD,

For Sterling Money, good Bills of Exchange, Gold, Silver, or Paper Currency,

THE following Tracts and Parcels of Land, *viz.*

Rover's Content,	466	
Part of *The Inclosure*,	89	
Part of *Goodluck*,	445	
Fife,	78	Acres.
Beall's Chance,	200	
Father's Gift,	183	
Bread and Cheese Hall,	91	

These are all adjoining, and make a Body of choice well timbered Land, whereon are Three Plantations, with good Orchards, lying in *Prince George's* County, within five Miles of *Bladensburg*, ten of *Upper-Marlborough*, and six of the *Eastern Branch* Ferry.

Coupper,	113	
Part of *Laybill*,	649	
Beall's Reserve,	380	Acres.
Drumeldry,	225	

The Four last mentioned lie in *Beall's Neck*, in *Frederick* County, not above twelve Miles from *Bladensburg*, being a choice Parcel of fine Wood-Land.

Also 450 Acres of Land, being Part of a Tract called *Allison's Park*, lying likewise in *Frederick* County, on or near a Branch, called and known, by the Name of *Captain John's Branch*.

Any Person inclinable to purchase Part of the first mentioned seven Tracts, lying in *Prince George's* County, may have the Quantity desired, provided it be taken so as not to incommode the remaining Part, to render it unserviceable, or prejudice the Sale thereof; and likewise, any Part of the several Tracts, in *Frederick* County, in like Manner.

The Title and Terms may be known, by applying to the Subscriber, or to *Josias Beall*, junior, living on *Ackokick*, near *Piscataway*, in *Prince-George's* County. JOHN BEALL, junior.

N. B. Time will be given for the Payment of Part, on good Security, if required.

ANNAPOLIS: Printed by JONAS GREEN, POST-MASTER, at his OFFICE in *Charles-street*; by whom all Persons may be supplied with this GAZETTE, at 12*s.* 6*d. per* Year. ADVERTISEMENTS of a moderate Length are taken in and inserted for Five Shillings the first Week, and One Shilling each Week after the First.